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There are other results given, one of which is that "interhemispherical degenerations tend to scatter and do not pass between identical areas of the two hemispheres."

*Vergleichend-entwicklungsgeschichtliche und anatomische Studien im Bereiche des Centralnervensystems. II. Ueber die Fortsetzung der hinteren Rückenmarkswurzeln zum Gehirn.* Dr. L. EDINGER. Anatomischer Anzeiger, No. 4, 1889. Rev. in Neurolog. Centralbl., by P. Kronthal.

As the result of his own investigations on the spinal cord of the frog, Edinger has determined that voluminous fiber bundles arise from the posterior cornua and pass ventrad, crossing with those of the opposite side, both ventrad and dorsad of the central canal. After decussation these fibers pass cephalad for the most part in the anterior and to a small extent in the lateral columns. This crossing occurs in mammals also, but in man has escaped observation because it is inconspicuous in frontal sections. The path of the sensory nerves is, therefore: peripheral end organ, nerve, cell of the spinal ganglion, posterior root, union with a second nucleus, decussation, continuation to the lemniscus, whither the antero-lateral columns pass. The view that all the sensory fibers do not run in the posterior columns is supported by observations in tabes as well as by physiological experiments.

*Progressive neurotische Muskelatrophie.* Dr. J. HOFFMANN. XIV Wanderversammlung südwestdeutscher Neurologen und Irrenärzte, Mai, 1889. Abstract in Neurolog. Centralbl., No. 13, 1889, by Dr. L. Laquer.

To the disease described by him under this name Hoffmann adds some anatomical facts. He cites several cases where the anatomical changes have been recorded and concludes that the following are made out: centripetal degeneration of the motor and sensory peripheral nerves, similar degeneration of the anterior and posterior spinal nerve roots, degeneration of the posterior columns in the lumbar region—from there cephalad only the columns of Goll are involved—, atrophy and disappearance of the multipolar ganglion cells of the anterior conua, with changes in the muscles as elsewhere described. Neither amyotrophic lateral sclerosis nor the various forms of poliomyelitis anterior nor Friedrich's disease (hereditary ataxia) nor ependymal sclerosis nor multiple neuritis produce such changes. From the lesion of tabes dorsalis it is distinguished by the immunity of the columns of Burdach above the lumbar region. (In a case quoted from Gombault and Mallet it is stated that the degeneration of all the fibers connected with the posterior root ganglion takes place while the ganglion cells remain normal! REV.)

*Anatomische Untersuchung eines Falles von amyotrophischer Lateral-sklerosis.* Dr. OTTO DORNBLÜTH. Originalmittheilung, Neurolog. Centralbl. No. 13, 1889.

This interesting case is given with some detail. At the end of the article there is a summary from which we take the following:

In a woman of 58 years with hereditary taint, and who had suffered from folie circulaire for 4 years, and exhibited increased muscular irritability for some time, there suddenly appeared paralysis of the

upper extremities which soon decreased. After two years there were contractures in both legs. There were peculiar rises in the temperature, lasting a short time, immobile pupils and general atrophy. After two years more contractures in both arms; decubitus, death. The autopsy showed the lesion for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. The degeneration in the pyramidal tract could be followed from the lumbar region to the level of the corpora quadrigemina at which the process was the more recent. The motor cells of the cord were degenerated, also the nuclei of the hypoglossus, anterior vagus and glossopharyngeus, facialis, and motor trigeminus. Moreover there was hyperæmia of the gray matter along the floor of the medulla and of the pons, fresh extravasations specially in the region of the posterior vagus nucleus (sensory) an old extravasation cephalad of the facialis knee, with secondary ascending atrophy of the right posterior longitudinal bundle. This case agrees with those previously reported in showing motor ganglia and tracts to be alone involved by the disease. The degeneration of the pyramids disappeared caudad of the internal capsule. (The brain was not examined microscopically, but showed no lesion at the autopsy). It is suggested that the case may illustrate Westphal's generalization that fiber systems which acquire their medullary sheaths the latest are those which most easily undergo involution, or that some toxic substance exercises a selective action on motor cells and fibers. The variations in temperature may have been connected with the extravasations into the sensory nucleus of the vagus.

*Recherches sur la structure des cordons postérieurs de la moelle épinière de l'homme.* N. POPOFF de Varsovie. Archives de Neurologie, Mars, 1889. Rev. in Neurolog. Centralbl., No. 16, 1889, by Nonne.

Testing Becterev's statements on the components of the column of Goll, Popoff finds by way of confirmation that the group of fibers nearest the middle line becomes medullated earlier than the more lateral portion. The difference is clearer in the cervical than in the dorsal region. According to Popoff the mesial portion originates from the column of Clarke, the lateral from the posterior commissure.

*A gerinczvelői idegek hátulsó gyökereiről.* M. LENHOSSÉK. Ung. Akadémie, Sitzung v. 20 Mai, Auszug aus Orvosi Hetilap 1889, p. 21. Rev. in Neurolog. Centralbl., No. 16, 1889 by Jendrassik.

The course of the posterior spinal roots was studied by means of comparative anatomy and embryology. The entering fibers divide into three groups. A mesial (*innere*), intermediate (*mediale*), and lateral portion. The two former acquire their medullary sheaths earlier and are composed of larger fibers than the last. The mesial group passes through the substantia gelatinosa in a number of thick bundles, and bends to form the longitudinal bundles of the posterior cornua (Kölliker.) From here, after a longer or shorter course, they pass ventrad for the most part in the direction of the lateral cells of the anterior cornua, smaller portions to the lateral column and posterior commissure. This last group is small in man but more developed in the cord of the guinea-pig.

Of the intermediate group, a portion enters the column of Bur-